

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**DIVISION OF FORESTRY
MAT-SU AREA
AND
KENAI - KODIAK AREA**

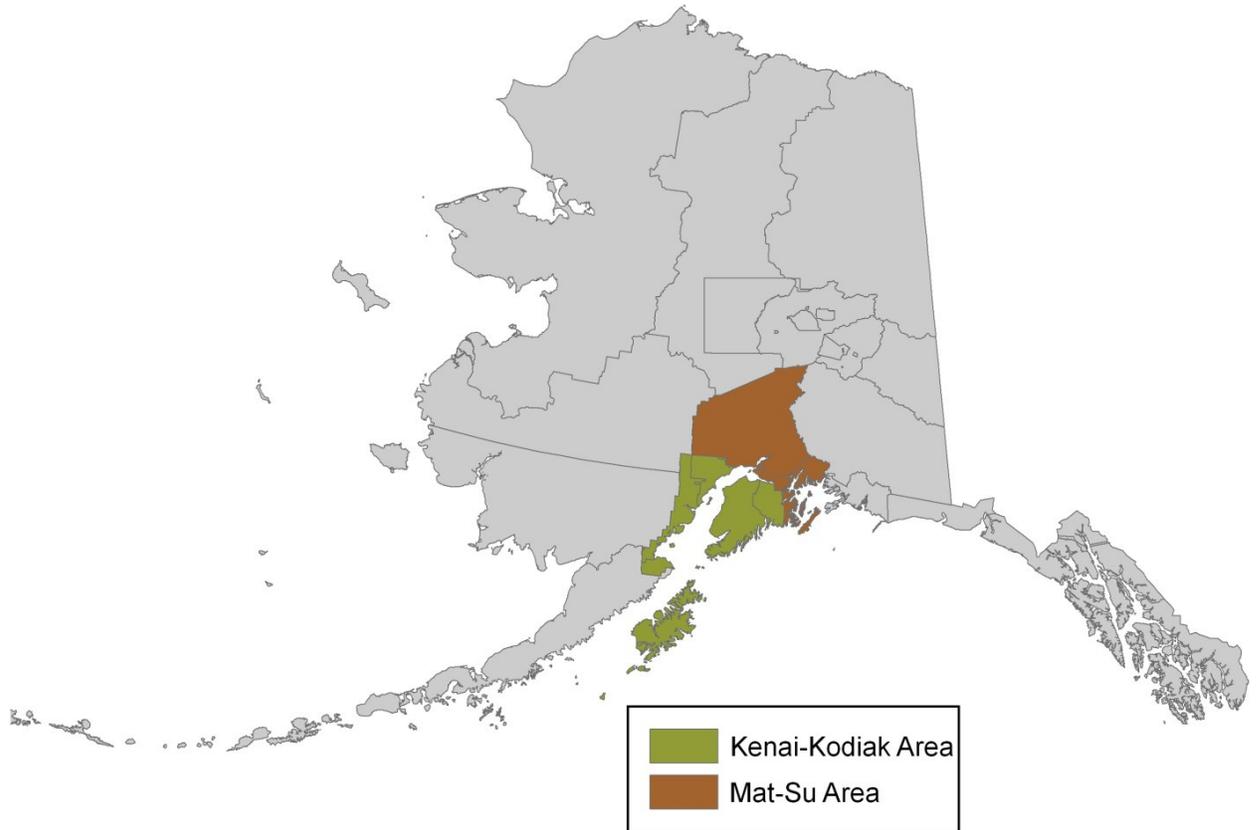
**FIVE-YEAR
SCHEDULE OF TIMBER SALES
CY 2018-2022**

May, 2018

**Paul Keech
Regional Forester**

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Mat-Su Area and Kenai-Kodiak Area Locator Map



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Edward Soto
Mat-Su/SW Area
Area Forester

Hans Rinke
Kenai-Kodiak Area
Area Forester

Purpose of the Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales

The Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales (FYSTS), published every two years, identifies areas where the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Division of Forestry (DOF) is planning timber sales. The Five-Year Schedule is meant to inform the public, timber industry, local governments, and other agencies of potential State timber sales, and solicit their input to help us better plan our sale program. The Five-Year Schedule is a scoping document, not a decision document and is therefore not appealable under AS 38.05.035.

This Five-Year Schedule meets the statutory requirements of AS 38.05.113 and acts as a basis for allocating departmental resources in considering, designing and conducting timber sales. Volume and harvest information is based on the calendar year. This document does not include harvests proposed by the University of Alaska or the Alaska Mental Health Land Trust. Their respective offices manage the University of Alaska and Mental Health Trust lands.

This Five-Year Schedule provides information to the public concerning development and use of the State's forest resources in the Mat-Su Area (MSA) and the Kenai / Kodiak Area (KKA) for the period of January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2022.

DOF bases the Five-Year Schedule on State lands that are available for timber harvest, as identified in area plans. Area plans are long range planning documents prepared by DNR to determine the use of State land in regional areas, such as *Southeast Susitna Area Plan*, *Susitna Matanuska Area Plan*, and *Kenai Area Plan*. The areas targeted for timber harvest and development are based on the management intent language in the Area Plans and are quantified in this Five-Year Schedule based on aerial photo inventory. These data are augmented by limited ground reconnaissance and historical knowledge accumulated by personnel working in the area.

All State timber sales must comply with the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act and Regulations, and the Alaska Land Act and Regulations. Further, all State timber sales must adhere to area-wide land management policies and specific land management policies for each management unit of DNR area plans.

After adopting the Five-Year Schedule, DOF will do more detailed fieldwork to assess and design proposed sales. Before any commercial timber sale of ten acres or larger is offered, DOF will prepare a Best Interest Finding (BIF) for agency and public review and comment. Based on the comments received, DOF will issue a Final Best Interest Finding that will determine whether or not the timber sale is in the State's best interest. The Final BIF is appealable under AS 38.05.035. Prior to harvest, a Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) will be developed that gives site-specific information for each sale, describing the location, estimated timber volume, harvest methods, reforestation plan, access, and other potential uses of the sale area. Other State agencies and the public have the opportunity to review and comment on every FLUP. Significant concerns or mitigation needs that arise during the review period will be addressed by DOF before the sale proceeds. The BIF, not the FYSTS, is the final document that decides whether or not the Division will offer a timber sale. The FLUP is the State's specific logging plan for that sale. If a sale was offered but not purchased, or if a sale was purchased but not harvested wholly or in part, the remaining timber can be sold without reappearing in a FYSTS or in a BIF. A new FLUP may be required if conditions warrant it.

Management Intent of the DOF Timber Sale Program

The goals of the timber sale program are to make timber available for existing timber harvesting and processing businesses, and to create the kind of forest biodiversity that will provide additional future jobs and income while maintaining compatibility with other designated land uses. Harvesting is designed to promote forest health and diversity and to meet forest management goals that provide additional benefits, including diverse forest habitats and long-term supplies of many forest products. DOF develops FYSTS biennially and may write them annually if market and stand conditions warrant a change in management. Timber sales are offered in a range of volumes and contract periods to accommodate the demands of the forest industry, the public, and forest management goals. Sale offerings will be subject to access conditions, markets, the limits of the annual allowable cut, public comment, and DOF staffing and funding to design and administer timber sales.

DOF will coordinate timber sales with timber sale offerings of other landowners when it will be in both the landowner's and State's best interest. Opportunities for cooperative timber sales will be identified, in part, through public and agency review of the FYSTS.

Location: Mat-Su Area

The Mat-Su Area covers most of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the Municipality of Anchorage and is bounded by Girdwood and Turnagain Arm on the south, the Alaska Range on the west, Denali National Park on the north, and the Talkeetna Mountains on the east.

Most of the timber sales included in this schedule are from two larger management blocks in the Mat-Su Area: the West Petersville Block near Trapper Creek; and the Houston Block near Houston; the Fish Creek Block west of Big Lake and the Willer-Kash Block near Willow.

Location: Kenai / Kodiak Area

The KKA encompasses all of the Kenai Peninsula, the west side of Cook Inlet to the Aleutian Range, the Kodiak Archipelago, and the western half of Prince William Sound.

Annual Allowable Cut

The Division of Forestry is mandated to manage its timber harvest on a sustained yield basis. 'Sustained Yield' means the "achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of an annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the State land consistent with multiple use" (AS 38.04.910). 'Sustained Yield' is also mandated in the Constitution of the State of Alaska, Article 8, Section 4. To fulfill this mandate, the DOF uses annual allowable cut (AAC) calculations, which is the average amount of timber that may be cut from a forest to maintain a balance between net growth and harvest while meeting the management intent for the land. It estimates the maximum amount of timber that can be harvested each year while maintaining sustainability of the timber. The DOF utilizes the AAC to develop the amount of timber proposed for sale in the FYSTS. For a variety of planning and logistical reasons, the DOF will typically designate a variety of proposed timber sale configurations; some actually amounting to more than the AAC for a given year. Actual acres cut will, though, remain inside the AAC when averaged on a decadal basis (or the five year basis as required by SFG). To this end, the DOF may write a FYSTS more often to accommodate changes in forest management timing and keep the public informed of its actions.

AAC: Mat-Su Area

The annual allowable cut for the Mat-Su Area was established by the *SFG*. The *SFG* further divides the Mat-Su Area into three phases: Phase I east of the Susitna River, Phase II west of the Susitna River, and Phase III west of the Kahiltna River. Each Phase has its own AAC calculation with all proposed activities during this schedule’s period directed towards Phase I. The *DOF* is in the process of updating the Area’s inventory using new methodology, imagery, and field work, to better reflect changing markets and land use. For this schedule, average cubic feet per acre was applied to existing data to arrive at an estimated AAC. The AAC will be updated as soon as new data is received.

Annual Allowable Cut

Phase	Allowable Cut
Phase I	1,400 acres/year

Proposed Acres to be Sold by Calendar Year

2018:	790 acres
2019:	709
2020:	720
2021:	733
2022:	714
Total	3,475 acres

AAC: Kenai / Kodiak Area

In the *KKA*, proposed timber sales primarily focus on sanitation and salvage of timber impacted by historic spruce bark beetle activity. The Alaskan Supreme Court ruled that timber cutting may be permitted at a level that cannot be sustained over a forest rotation only in unusual circumstances such as salvage cuts where trees have been killed or damaged.

The total forestland base (gross acres) considered for the calculation is 79,200 acres. For the AAC calculations, the Kenai is divided into two sections: the Kenai Peninsula (54,600 acres), and West Side Cook Inlet and Kalgin Island (24,600 acres). In both units the rotation age used for spruce is 120 years. This rotation age is based on future utilization and a model site index.

Annual Allowable Cut

Location	Forested Acres	Allowable Cut Acres
Kenai Peninsula	54,600	455/year
West Side of Cook Inlet & Kalgin Island	24,600	205/year
Grand Total	79,200	660/year

Proposed Acres to be Sold by Calendar Year

2018:	225 acres
2019:	631
2020:	220
2021:	195
<u>2022:</u>	<u>213</u>
Total	1,484 acres

*See Strategic Plans under Kenai / Kodiak Area, page 11.

Timber Harvest Methodology: Mat-Su Area

The Mat-Su Area will use harvest methods to encourage and enhance the establishment of seedlings produced by seeds from residual trees and the surrounding forest. Due to spruce bark beetle mortality in mature spruce, pole, sapling, and seedling-sized white spruce will be protected to the fullest extent possible to provide a stand of uneven age structure for the next rotation. Usually, natural regeneration provides adequate spruce reforestation. Methodologies will strive to protect next generation spruce seed sources. In most birch and aspen stands, the seed tree harvest silvicultural method will be employed. Natural seed regeneration and stump sprouting will provide regeneration in hardwood stands. Harvest areas using the seed tree and clear-cut methods will be mechanically scarified to create soil conditions conducive to the establishment of natural seedlings. In areas of high spruce stem counts, selective cutting of dead spruce may occur.

Timber Harvest Methodology: Kenai / Kodiak Area

Due to extensive mortality caused by the spruce bark beetle, most of the silvicultural treatments will consist of removing dead trees and leaving live spruce less than a defined DBH, usually 10 inches. Stand conditions change annually. When standing timber is pushed over or broken by wind, the downed trees hold moisture and rot at a higher rate than standing timber which then affects the marketability and value of timber sales.

Silvicultural prescriptions for each sale will provide for retaining spruce trees to provide wildlife cover or desirable seed sources. Natural seed regeneration and stump sprouting will provide regeneration in hardwood stands. Harvest areas using the seed tree and clear cut methods will be mechanically scarified to create soil conditions conducive to the establishment of natural seedlings.

The result is that most harvested areas will have a forested appearance; but they will look obviously thinned. In areas where most of the trees are dead, and few hardwoods are present, the area will look more open. These areas will appear as openings with widely scattered residual live trees until natural regeneration or planted seedlings appear above the grass. DOF's Forest Land Use Plans, prepared for every sale, clearly describe the harvest and regeneration plans in more detail.

Transportation

Multiple use values will be considered when roads are located, designed, and developed, and will reflect the management intent and primary uses for the planning area. Proposed

access routes and types of access for the first years of this schedule are shown on the attached maps. As management objectives are met for an area, roads may be put to bed, and access to the road will be restricted to off-highway vehicle traffic to reduce maintenance costs and minimize degradation of the road and surrounding area. Best Interest Findings for individual sales will fully discuss access types, locations, and management objectives based upon information gathered in the field.

State Land Use Plans: Mat-Su Area

The strategic plan for the Mat-Su Area is to provide wood fiber for the local forest products industry in a manner that is compatible with the sustained yield of the renewable timber resource. The intent of the timber sale program is to support the local small independent sawmills, provide commercial and personal use firewood sales, and potentially supply wood fiber for a biofuels or wood chip market. The DOF has always provided timber for the small local market although recently there has been an interest in exporting birch and spruce. This emerging market will enable the DOF to manage the many older, declining stands in the Mat-Su Valley, regenerate younger forests and improve forest health. All harvesting for this FYSTS is planned for Phase I (Eastside) Susitna Forest Guidelines.

Strategic Plans: Kenai / Kodiak Area

One of the main factors influencing forest planning in the Kenai/Kodiak Area (KKA) has been the extensive mortality caused by the bark beetle infestation during the 1990's. Currently, beetle populations are building in the Northern and Central Kenai Peninsula. The timber harvest objective has shifted primarily to salvaging dead trees, before they are blown over by wind. Downed trees increase the potential intensity of a wildfire and hinder fire suppression operations. If left on the ground too long, downed trees lose their market value. Trees will be retained along the perimeters of harvest units to provide wildlife cover, as recommended in the Kenai Area Plan.

For maps and more information on the effects of the Spruce Bark Beetle on the Kenai Peninsula, visit the Division of Forestry's website: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/insects/surveys.htm> for a current copy of the Alaska Forest Insect and Disease Survey.

The schedule also reflects the Division of Forestry's objective to offer timber sales to meet market demand, salvage dead timber, and reduce the wildfire hazard by harvesting spruce beetle killed trees. Sales are broken up into numerous units. Small to medium size sales will be offered to meet current demand for sawlogs, houselogs and fuel wood. Sales within the wildland-urban interface will be designed to reduce the risk of wildfire to the communities.

The area plans may be found on the web at:
<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/planning/areaplans/>.

The management plans and the *Susitna Forestry Guidelines* are on the web at:
<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/mlw/planning/mgtplans/>.

Timber Sales by Year: Mat-Su Area

(See the end of the Schedule for maps of each timber sale.)

Calendar Year	Timber Block	Estimated Acreage	Calendar Year	Timber Block	Estimated Acreage	Calendar Year	Timber Block	Estimated Acreage
2018	Houston	325	2020	Houston	86	2022	Houston	135
	Willer-Kash	240		Willer-Kash	154		Willer-Kash	175
	Rabideux	51		Rabideux	69		West Petersville	119
	West Petersville	58		West Petersville	155		Fish Creek	285
	Fish Creek	116		Fish Creek	256		Subtotal	714
	Subtotal	790		Subtotal	720			
2019	Houston	269	2021	Houston	189			
	Willer-Kash	256		Willer-Kash	94			
	West Petersville	66		West Petersville	271			
	Fish Creek	118		Fish Creek	179			
	Subtotal	709		Subtotal	733			

Timber Sale Descriptions

Note: Only timber sales slated for 2018 and 2019 are discussed in narrative form in this Five-Year Schedule, but maps are provided for all sales, 2018 through 2022.. If a sale listed in this schedule was offered but not purchased, the sale can be reoffered and sold if the sale has reappeared in two consecutive FYSTS or another FLUP with a BIF.

2018 Timber Sales

Willer-Kash Timber Block

This timber block is located approximately seven miles east of the community of Willow at the foot of Willow Mountain and north of Willow Creek. 240 acres are projected for harvest in units ranging in size from 24 to 100 acres.

Houston Timber Block

Two harvest units are planned for sale in 2018. These units are located at the base of the Talkeetna Mountains north of the Little Susitna River and will be accessed using the east fork of Zero Lake Road. The units total 325 acres and will be designed to conform to the Susitna Forestry Guidelines as well as natural features such as rolling topography, timber type, and wetlands. These units may be sold as individual sales or grouped together and sold as larger sales.

Rabideux Timber Sale

Trapper Creek is the nearest community, and is located approximately 9 miles north of the timber sale area. The planned sale is approximately 51 acres and is designated for wildlife and watershed protection in the Susitna Matanuska Area Plan. The sale will need to be designed for compatibility with these primary uses. The DNR's Division of Mining, Land, and Water as well as the Department of Fish & Game's Division of Wildlife Conservation will be consulted for input in creating management objectives and unit design. No new primary roads will be required. Main haul roads and previous logging roads will be reopened to and within the timber sale. A bridge will need to be re-installed to access the timber sale area which is located on the west side of Queer Creek above its confluence with Rabideux Creek.

West Petersville Timber Block

This timber block is located ten miles west of the community of Trapper Creek, Alaska, south of the Petersville Road. These two units were part of the West Petersville Timber Sale designed for a chipping operation that no longer operates in the area. The sale has gone through the public review process and the Forest Land Use Plan will be made available for review. These two units are 46 and 12 acres in size and total 58 acres. An old winter logging road on the south side of the Petersville Road will be reconditioned for approximately 1 mile and utilized for initial access into the tract.

Fish Creek Timber Block

Located approximately 13 miles west of the community of Big Lake, this timber block is accessed via a winter road off the end of Goldstreak Drive which is off West Susitna Parkway. The planned sale is approximately 116 acres in 3 units of the Fish Creek East Timber Sale. A bridge will need to be installed to access the western end of the winter road and the sales beyond. No new primary roads will be required.

2019 Timber Sales

Willar-Kash Timber Block

This timber block is located approximately seven miles east of the community of Willow at the foot of Willow Mountain and north of Willow Creek. 256 acres are projected for harvest in 8 units ranging in size from 10 to 63 acres. These units may be grouped together or sold separately.

Houston Timber Block

Five harvest units are planned for sale in 2019. These units are located at the base of the Talkeetna Mountains north of the Little Susitna River and will be accessed using the east fork of Zero Lake Road. The units total 269 acres and will be designed to conform to the Susitna Forestry Guidelines as well as natural features such as rolling topography, timber type, and wetlands. These units may be sold as individual sales or grouped together and sold as larger sales.

West Petersville Timber Block

This timber block is located ten miles west of the community of Trapper Creek, Alaska, south of the Petersville Road. These three units were part of the West Petersville Timber Sale designed for a chipping operation that no longer operates in the area. The sale has gone through the public review process and the Forest Land Use Plan will be made available for review. These units range in size from 4 to 36 acres and total 66 acres. An old winter logging road reconditioned as part of the 2015 timber sale program and an additional 0.5 miles of new winter road construction will be needed for access.

Fish Creek Timber Block

Located approximately 13 miles west of the community of Big Lake, this timber block is accessed via a winter road off the end of Goldstreak Drive which is off of West Susitna Parkway. 119 acres in 4 units are projected for harvest within the Fish Creek East Timber Sale. A bridge will need to be installed to access the western end of the winter road and the sales beyond. A new primary road of about 0.5 miles will be required to access the sale.

Harvest Plan: Kenai-Kodiak Area

(See the end of the Schedule for maps of each timber sale.)

Timber Sales by Year

Calendar Year	Timber Sales	Estimated Acres	Calendar Year	Timber Sale	Estimated Acres
2018	South Peninsula Block	225	2021	Seward Highway Block	195
2019	Ninilchick Block	631	2020	Dome View, South Ninilchick & Mile 127	1632
2020	Tustumena Block	220			

Timber Sale Descriptions

Note: Only timber sales slated for 2018 and 2019 are discussed in narrative form in this Five-Year Schedule, but maps are provided for all sales, 2018 through 2022.. If a sale listed in this schedule was offered but not purchased, the sale can be reoffered and sold if the sale has reappeared in two consecutive FYSTS or another FLUP with a BIF.

2018 Timber Sales

South Peninsula Block: Three sales are within this block—Griner (60 acres), Alamar (70 acres) and Kalanga (95 acres), for a total of 225 acres. The closest community to the sales is Anchor Point. The sales may be offered separately, or as a single package. Access for the Griner road may be all-season. Due to extensive muskegs, the Alamar sale will require winter roads. Likewise, the Kalanga Timber Sale will require frozen ground in order to access the timber via established Right-of-ways. Access to the sales will require that roads be constructed along section line easements adjacent to private parcels. Access into the timber sales through private land must be directly arranged between the purchaser and the private land owner.

2019 Timber Sales

Ninilchick Block: This sale block contains 13 harvest units for a total of 630 acres. The harvest units may be lumped into large sales, or sold as individual sales. All sales will require winter access and winter logging due to extensive muskegs. Purchasers must obtain approval directly from land owners for accessing any of the sales through private land.

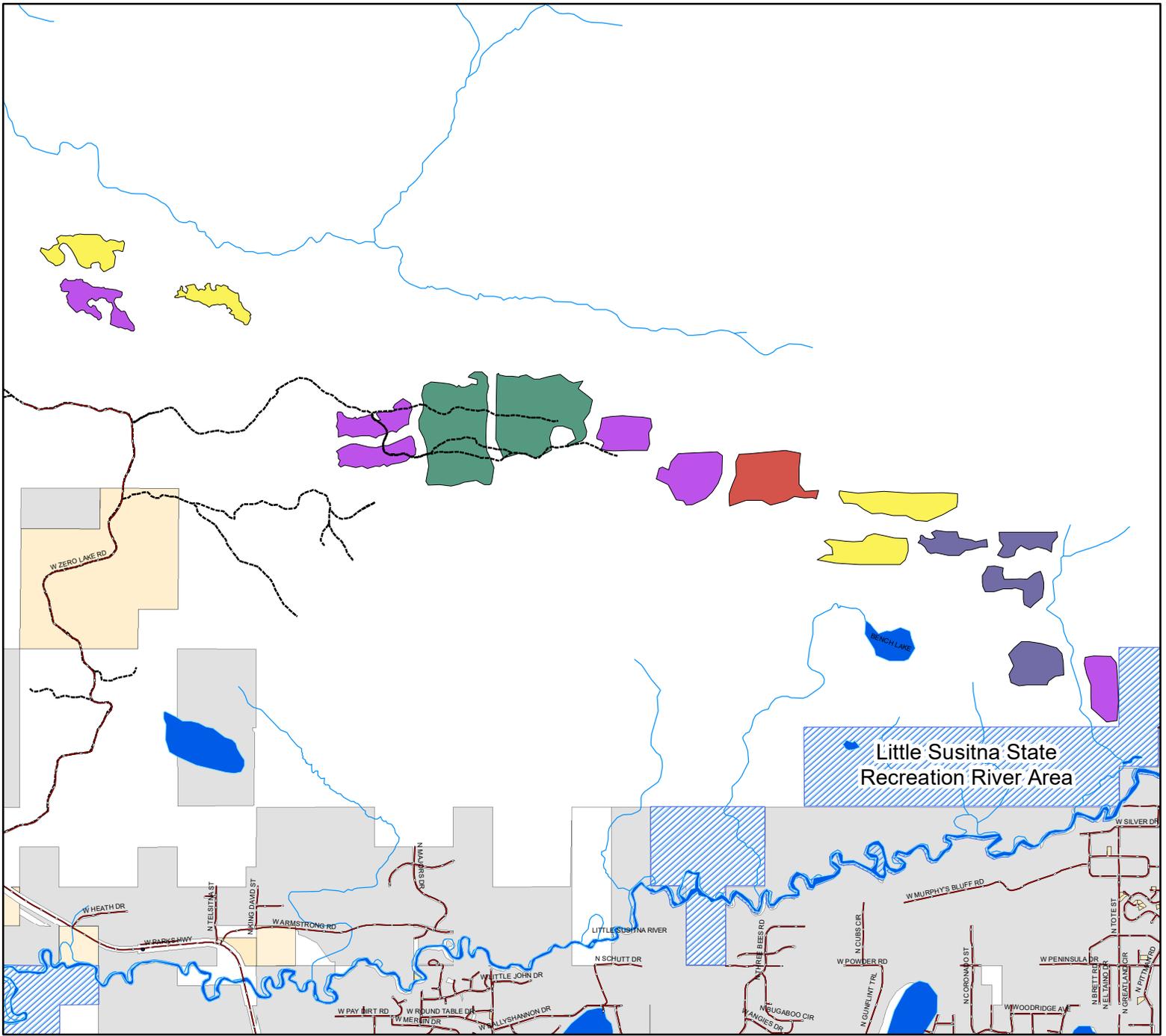
Appendix A: List of Maps

Mat-Su Area

Timber Block Name	Page Number
Houston	A2
Willer-Kash	A3
Rabideux	A4
West Petersville	A5
Fish Creek	A6

Kenai/Kodiak Area

Timber Block Name	Page Number
South Peninsula Block	A7
Ninilchick Block	A8
Tustumena Block	A9
Seward Highway Block	A10
Dome View	A11
South Ninilchick	A12
Mile 127	A13



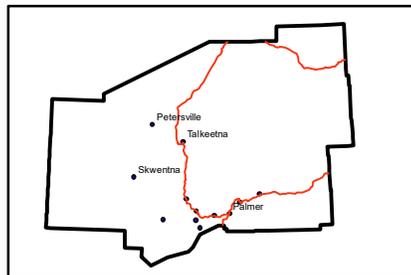
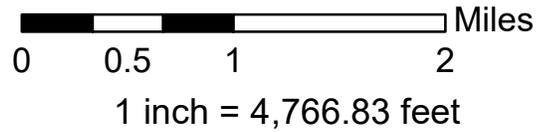
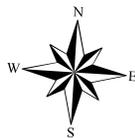
Roads

- Gravel Road
- ▬ Public Roads
- ▨ Legislative Designated Area
- Mat-Su Borough Land
- Privately Owned Land

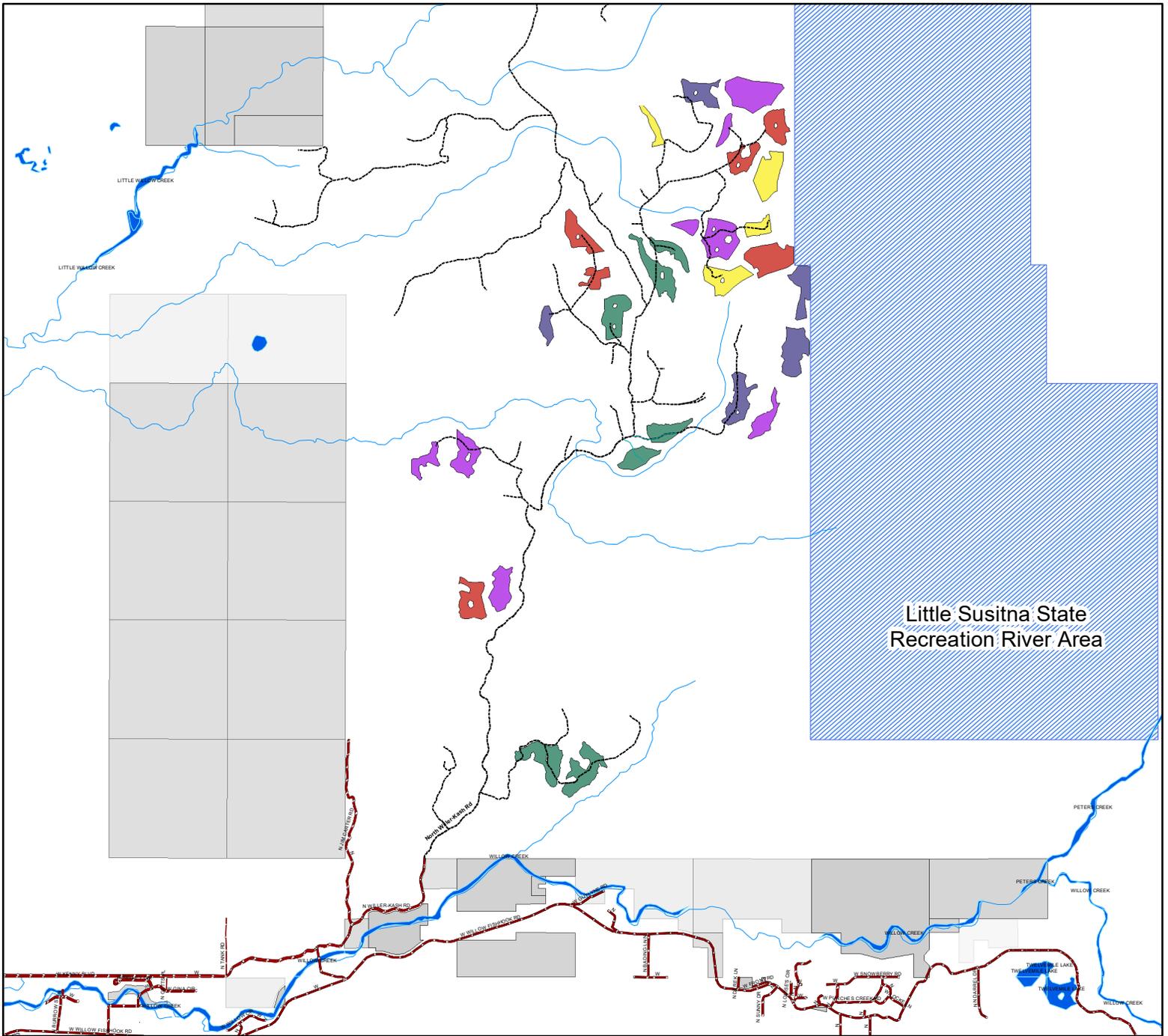
Harvest Years

- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- ▭ Mat-Su Borough

Harvest Block: Houston
Area Plan: Southeast Susitna Unit H-06 & U-01
Township 18 & 19 North, Range 3 West, SM
USGS Quadrangle: Anchorage C7 & C8



Alaska Division of Forestry
 Mat-Su/Southwest Area
 Palmer, AK
 T. Much March 2018



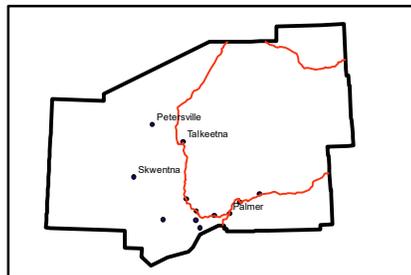
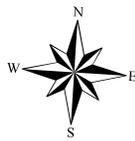
Little Susitna State
Recreation River Area

Roads

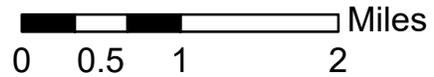
- Gravel Road
- Public Roads
- Legislative Designated Area
- Mat-Su Borough Land
- Privately Owned Land

Harvest Years

- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- Mat-Su Borough



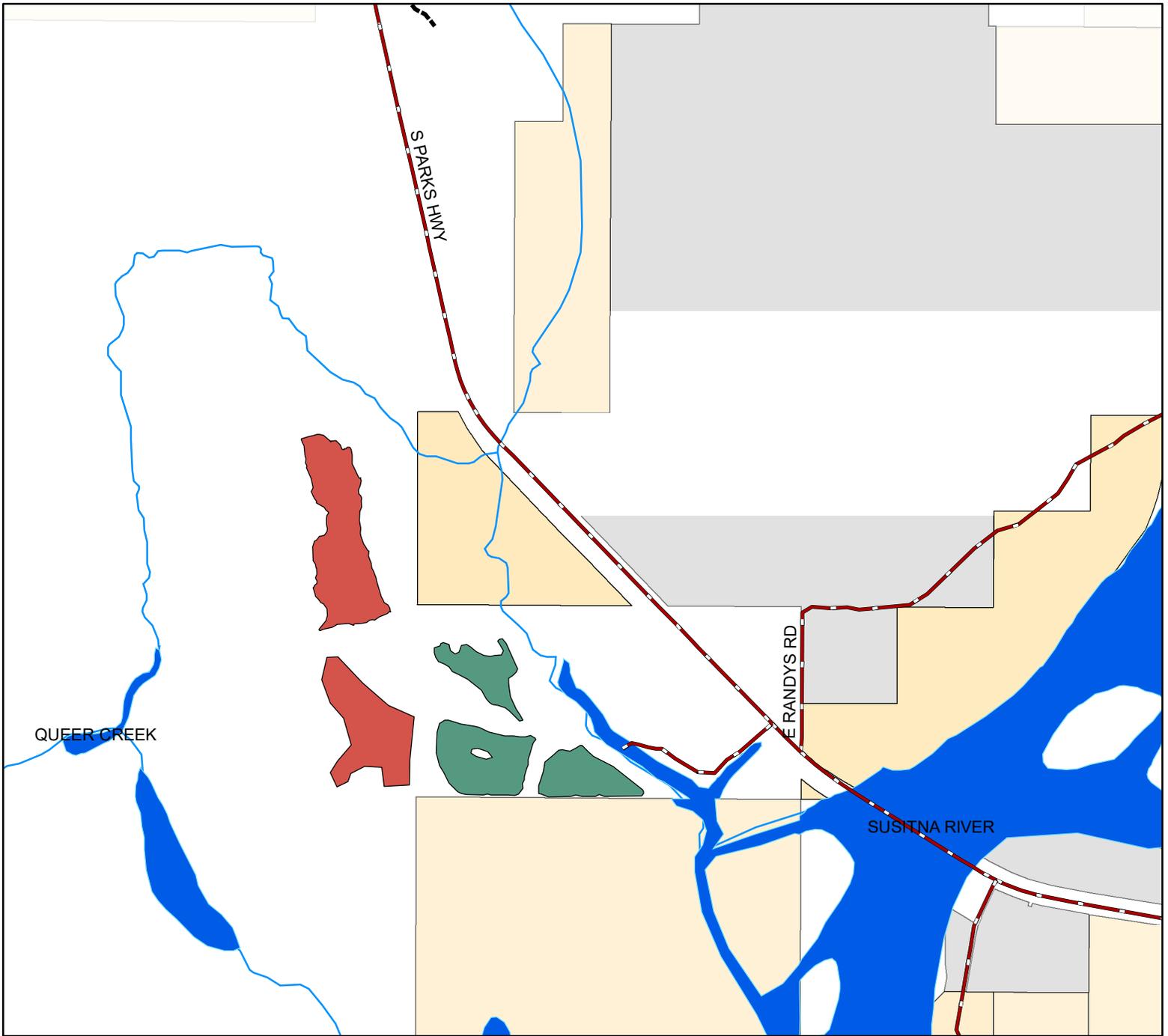
Harvest Block: Willer Kash
Area Plan: South Susitna Unit01
Townships 20 & 21 North, Range 3 West, SM
USGS Quadrangle: Anchorage D8



1 inch = 6,376.44 feet



Alaska Division of Forestry
 Mat-Su/Southwest Area
 Palmer, AK
 T. Much March 2018

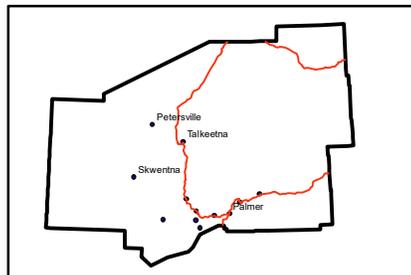
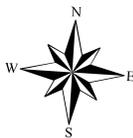


Roads

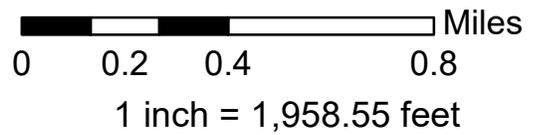
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- Public Roads
- Legislative Designated Area
- Mat-Su Borough Land
- Privately Owned Land

Harvest Years

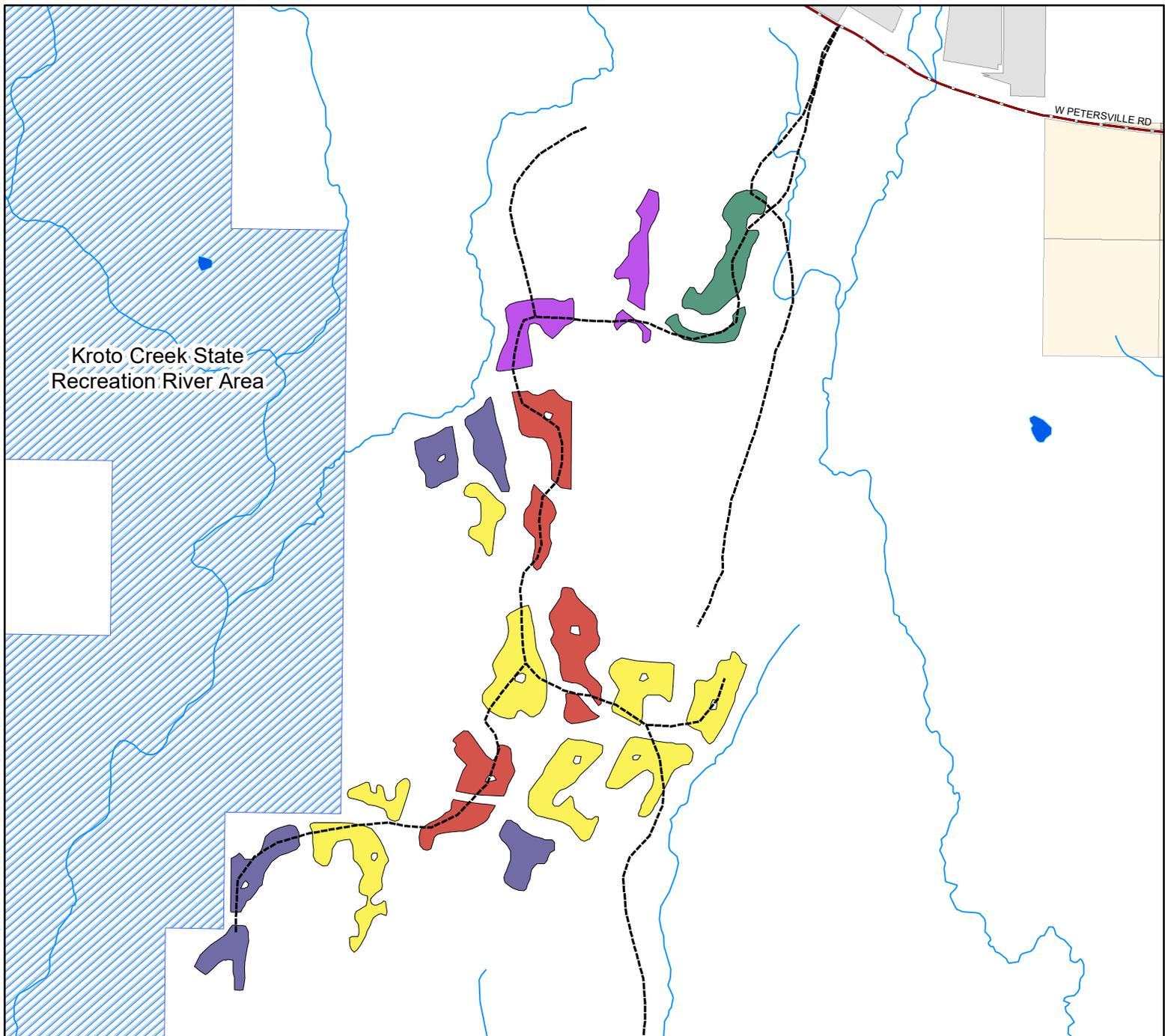
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- Mat-Su Borough



Harvest Block: Rabideux
Area Plan: Susitna Matanuska, Unit P15
Township 24 North, Range 5 West, SM
USGS Quadrangle: Talkeetna A1



Alaska Division of Forestry
 Mat-Su/Southwest Area
 Palmer, AK
 T. Much March 2018



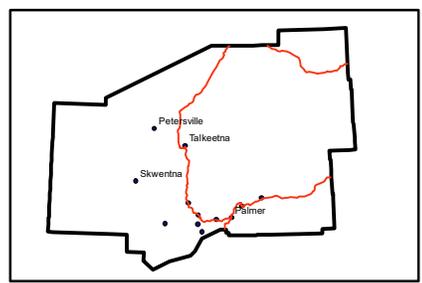
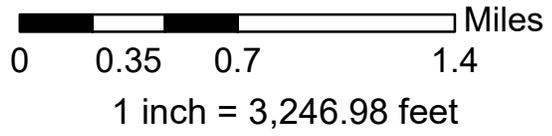
Roads

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- Public Roads
- Legislative Designated Area
- Mat-Su Borough Land
- Privately Owned Land

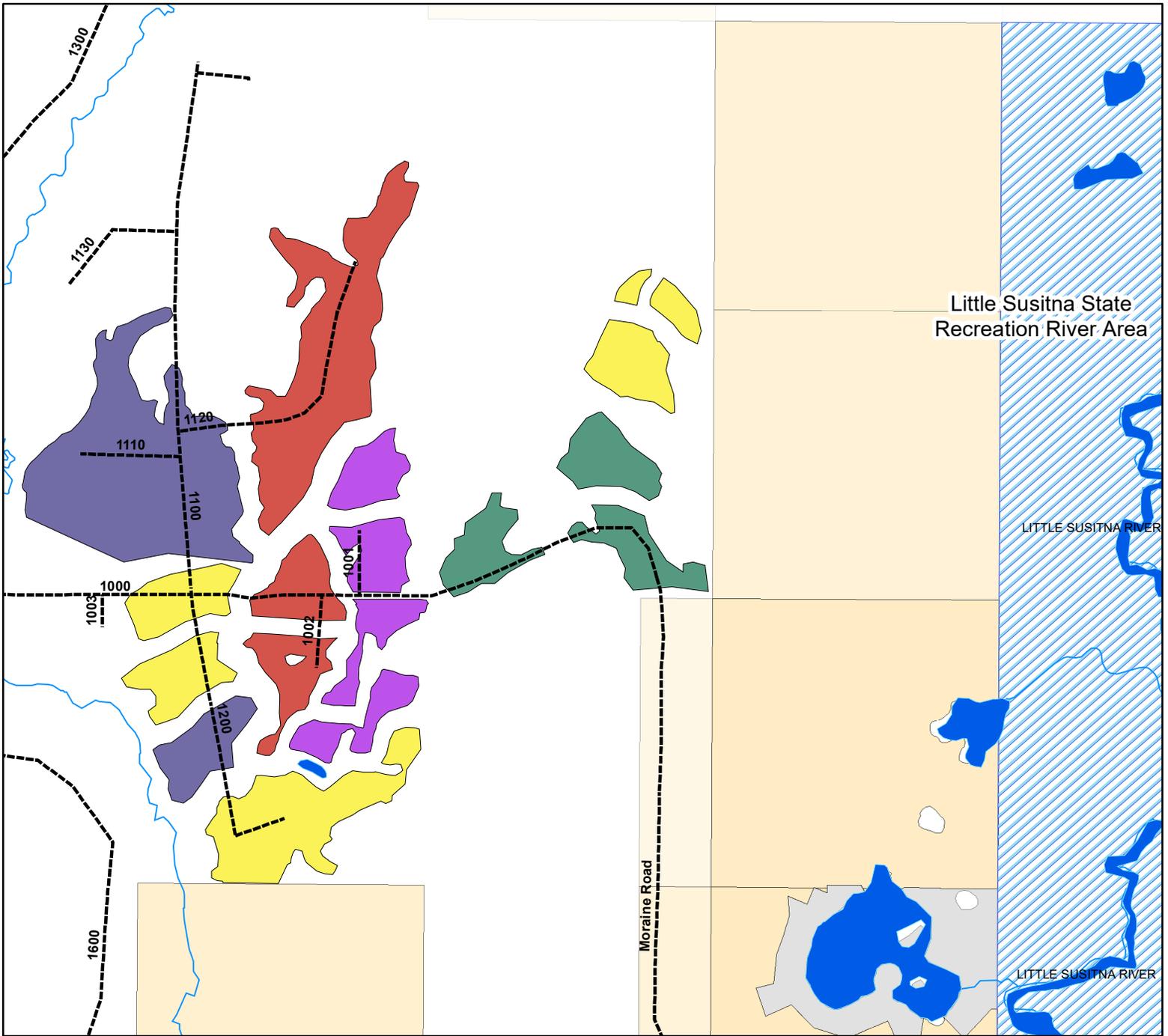
Harvest Years

- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- Mat-Su Borough

**Harvest Block: West Petersville
Area Plan: Susitna Matanuska, Unit P13
Township 25 & 26 North, Range 7 West, SM
USGS Quadrangle: Talkeetna A2 & B2**



Alaska Division of Forestry
Mat-Su/Southwest Area
Palmer, AK
T. Much March 2018

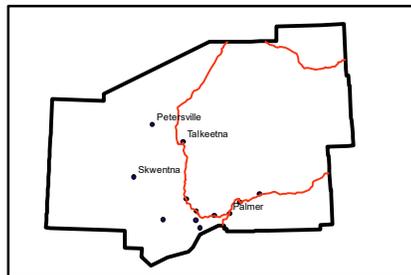
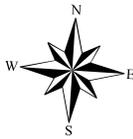


Roads

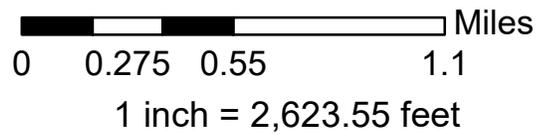
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Harvest Years

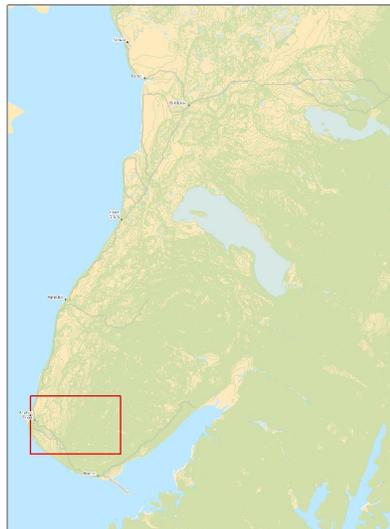
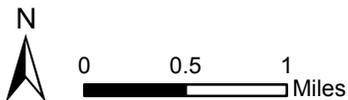
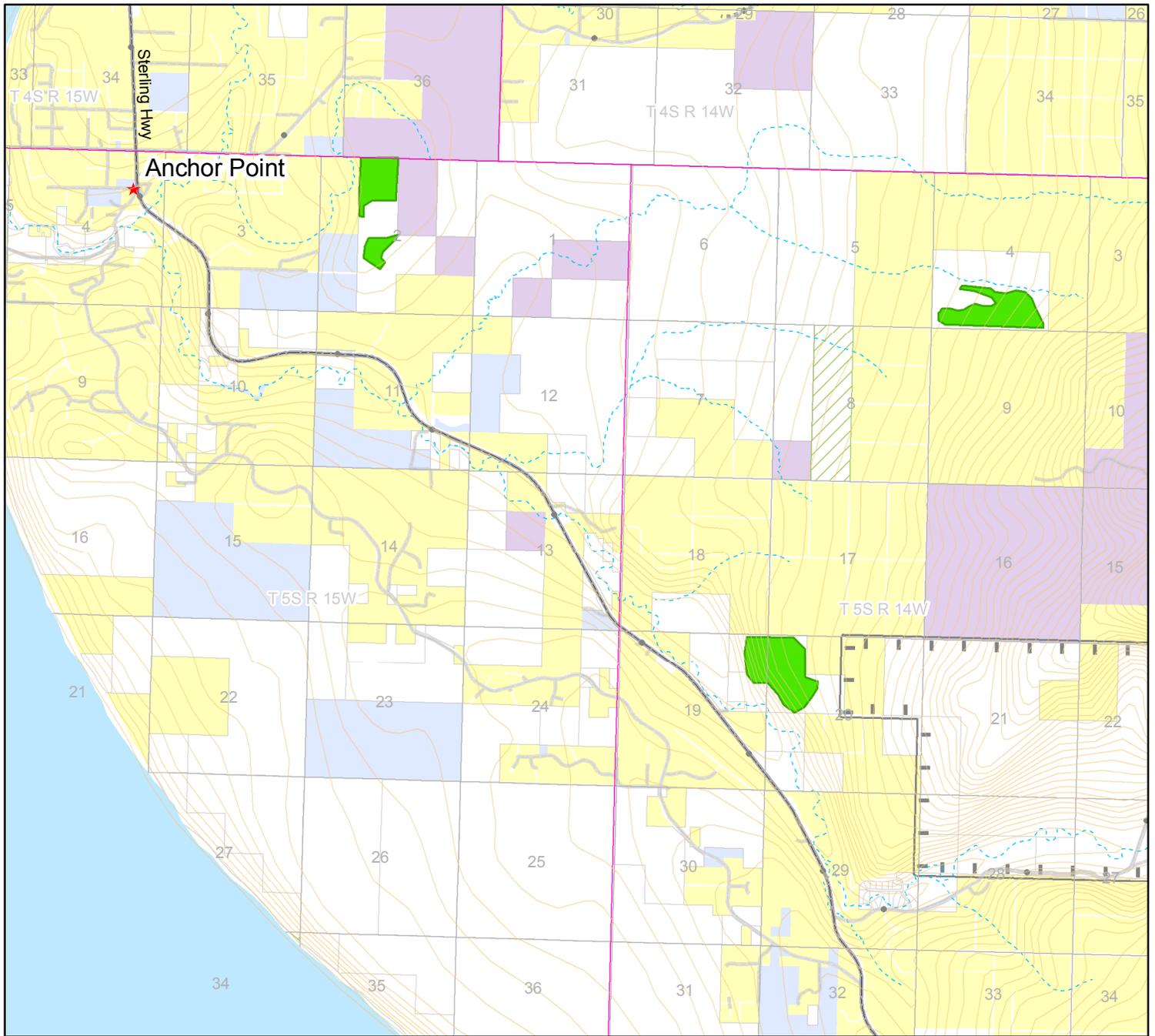
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- Mat-Su Borough



Harvest Block: Fish Creek
Area Plan: Fish Creek Management Plan
Township 17 North, Range 5 & 6 West, SM
USGS Quadrangle: Tyonek C1 & C2



Alaska Division of Forestry
 Mat-Su/Southwest Area
 Palmer, AK
 T. Much March 2018

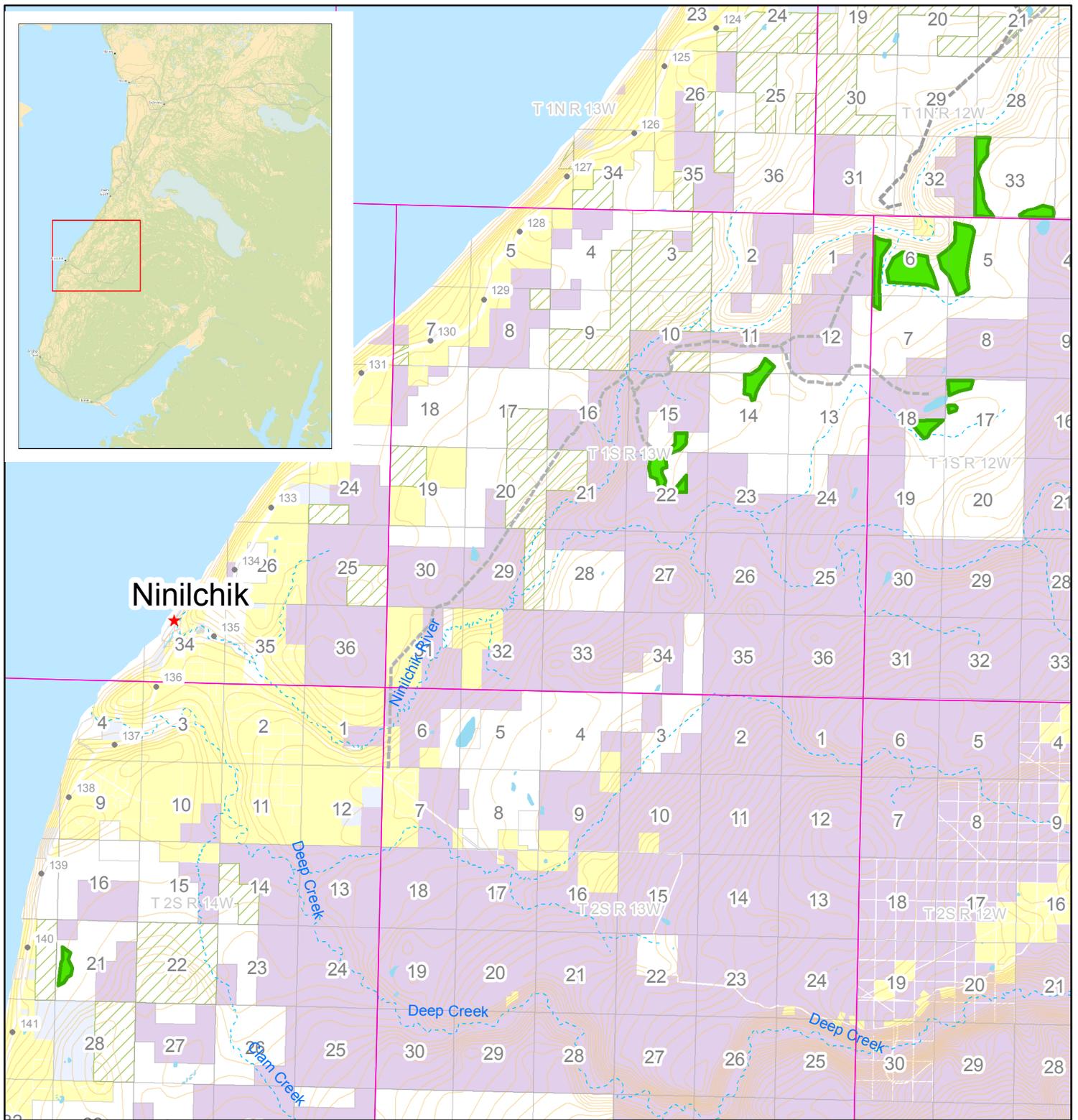


Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales South Peninsula Block 2018

Section 2,
Township 5 South, Range 15 West
and
Sections 4, 19 and 20,
Township 5 South, Range 14 West



Alaska Division of Forestry
Kenai / Kodiak Area Office
Soldotna
J. Winters 2015

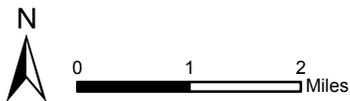


Ninilchik

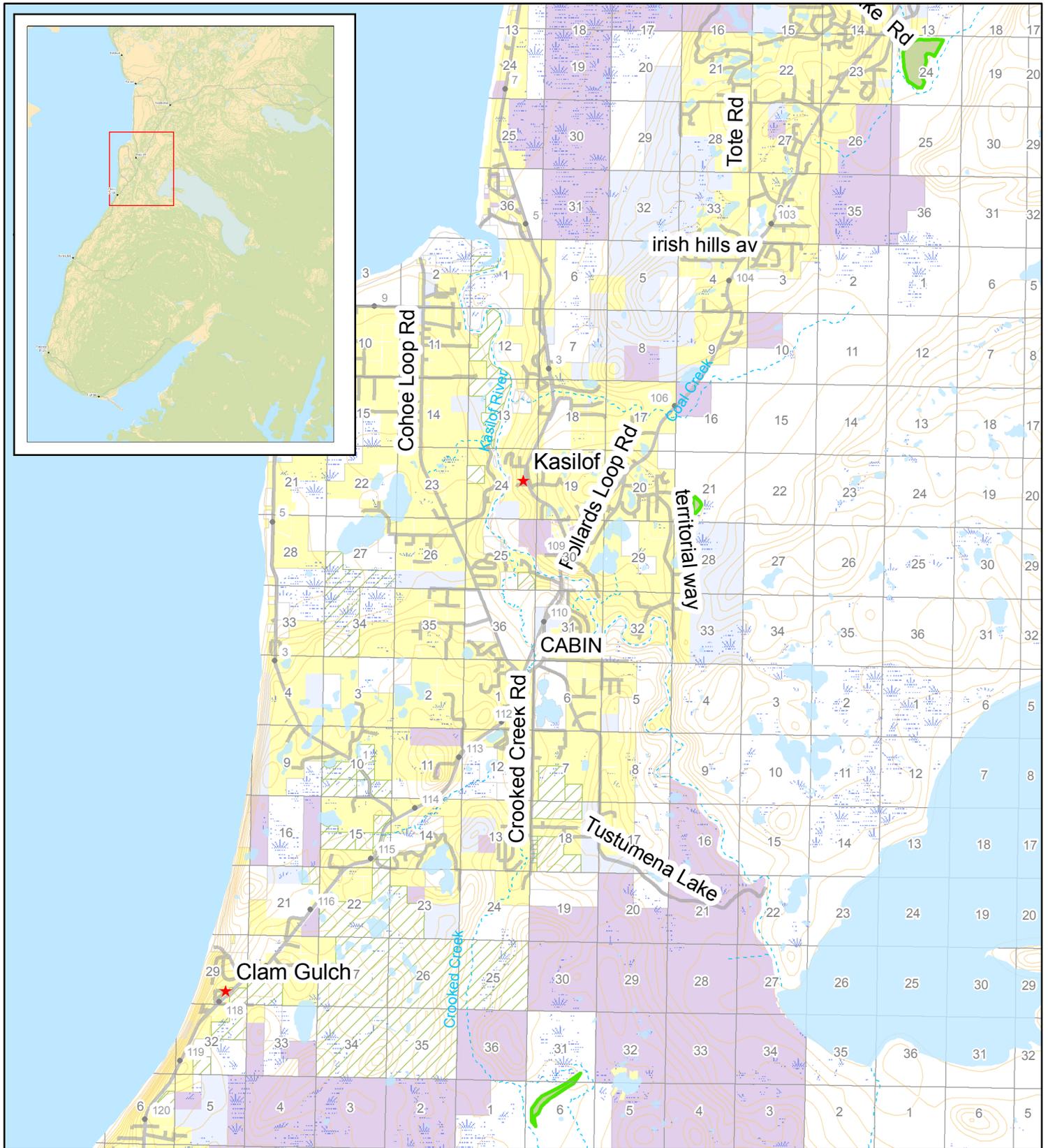


Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales Ninilchik Harvest Block 2019

Section 33 Township 1 North Range 12 West
 Sections 5, 6, 7, 18 Township 1 South Range 12 West
 Sections 11, 14, 15, 22 Township 1 South Range 13 West
 Section 21 Township 2 South Range 14 West



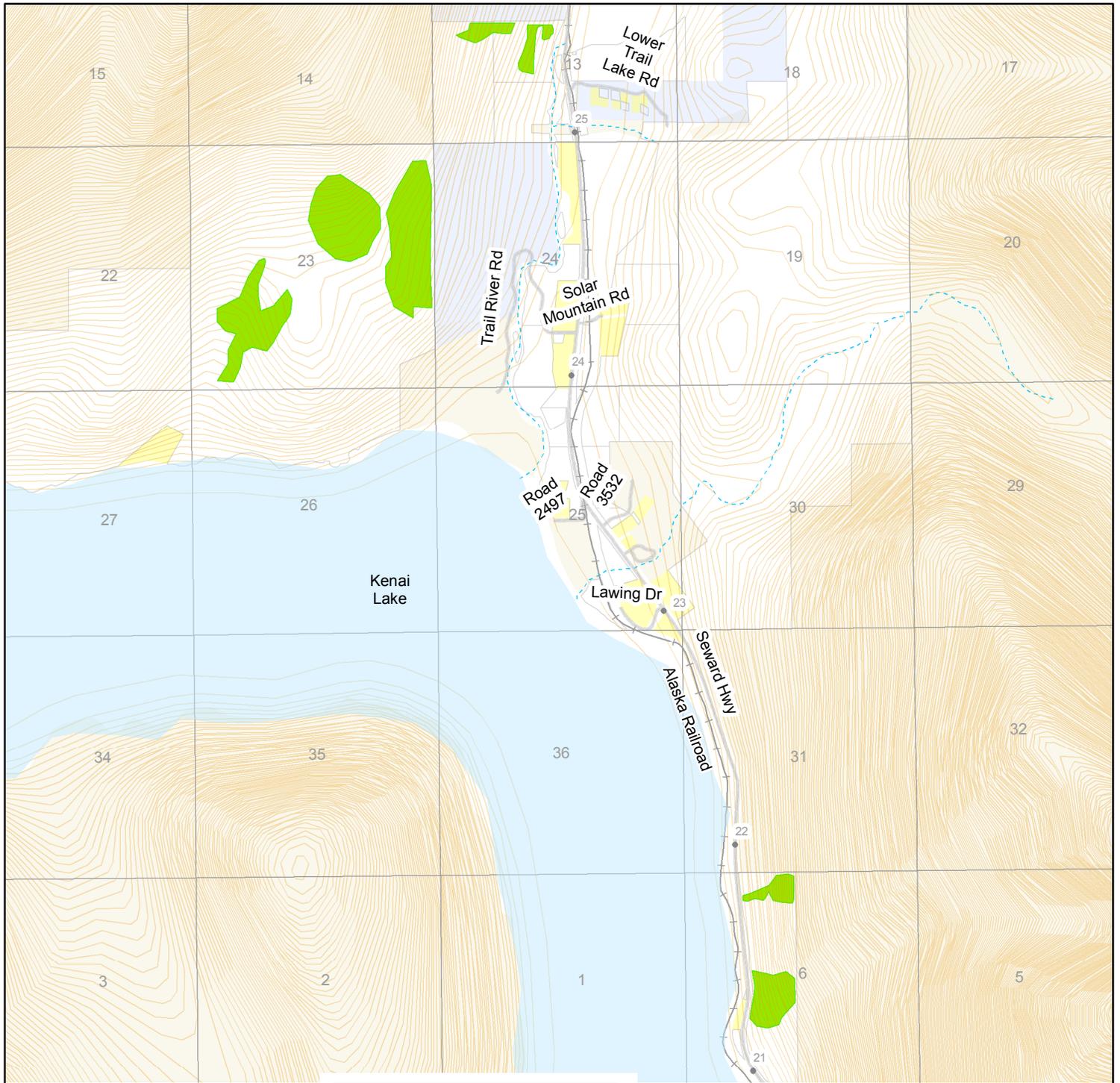
Alaska Division of Forestry
 Kenai / Kodiak Area Office
 Soldotna
 J. Winters 2015



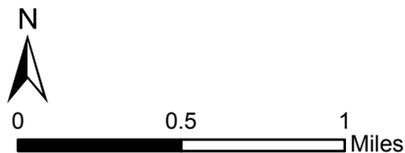
Alaska Division of Forestry Kenai / Kodiak
 Area Office Soldotna
 J. Winters 2014

Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales Tustumena Harvest Block 2020

Township 4 North Range 11 West,
 Township 3 North Range 11 West
 Township 1 North Range 11 West,
 Seward Meridian



-  Section Lines
-  Timber Sales
-  State DNR
-  University of Alaska
-  Private Lands
-  Native Corporation
-  Kenai Peninsula Borough
-  U.S. Forest Service

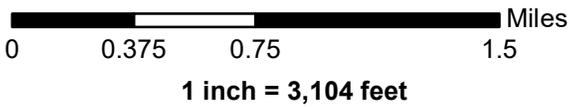
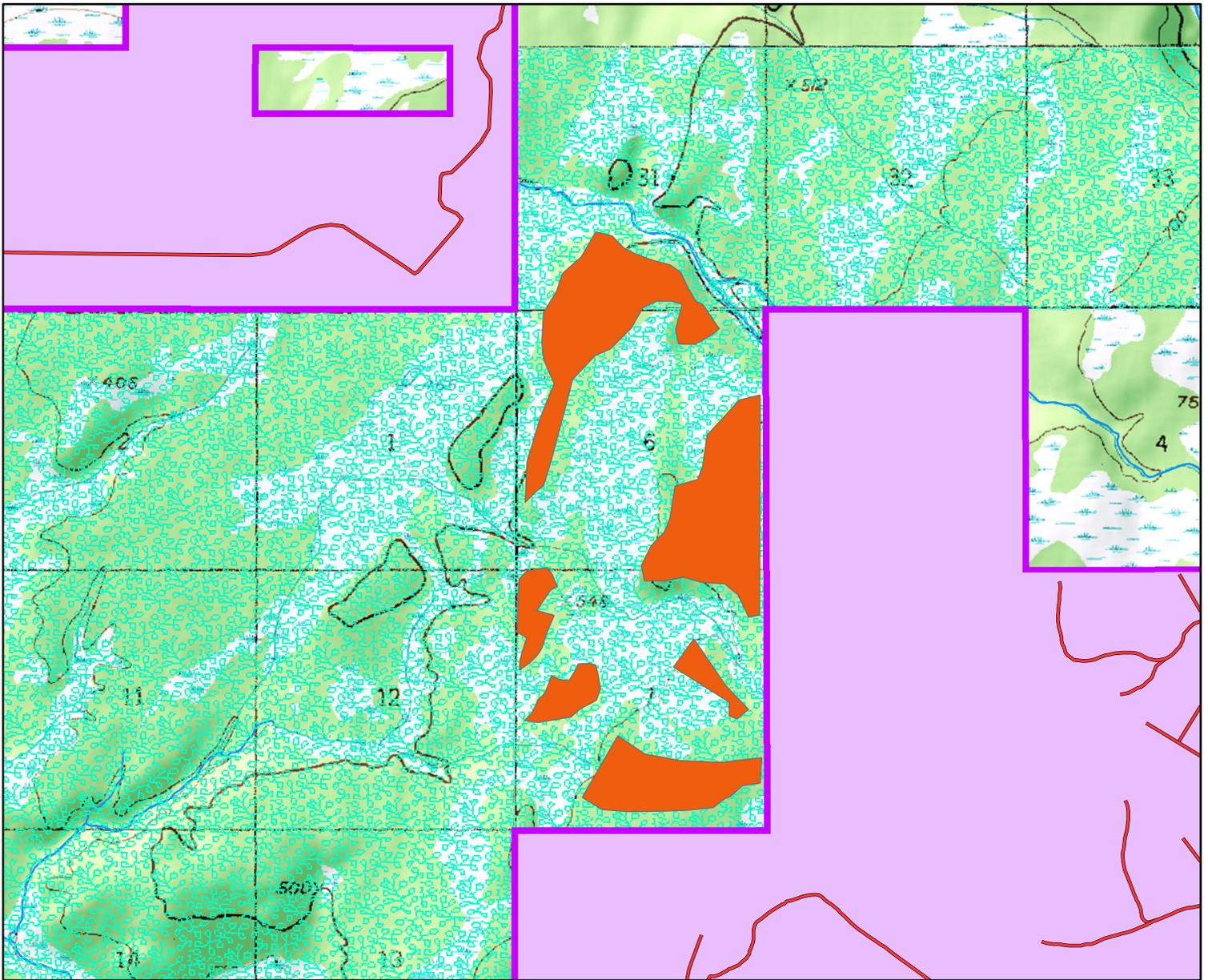


Five Year Schedule of Timber Sales Seward Highway Block 2021

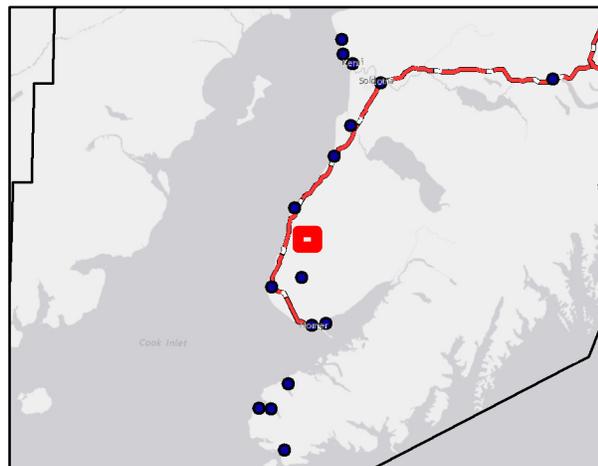
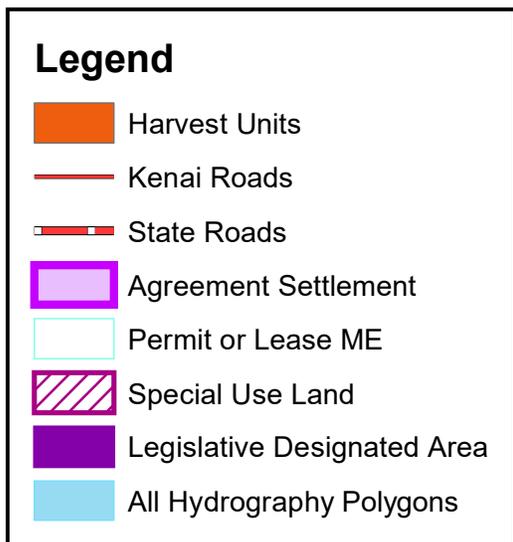
Township 4 North Range 1 West
Township 3 North Range 1 East
Seward Meridian



Alaska Division of Forestry
Kenai / Kodiak Area Office
Soldotna
J. Winters 2015

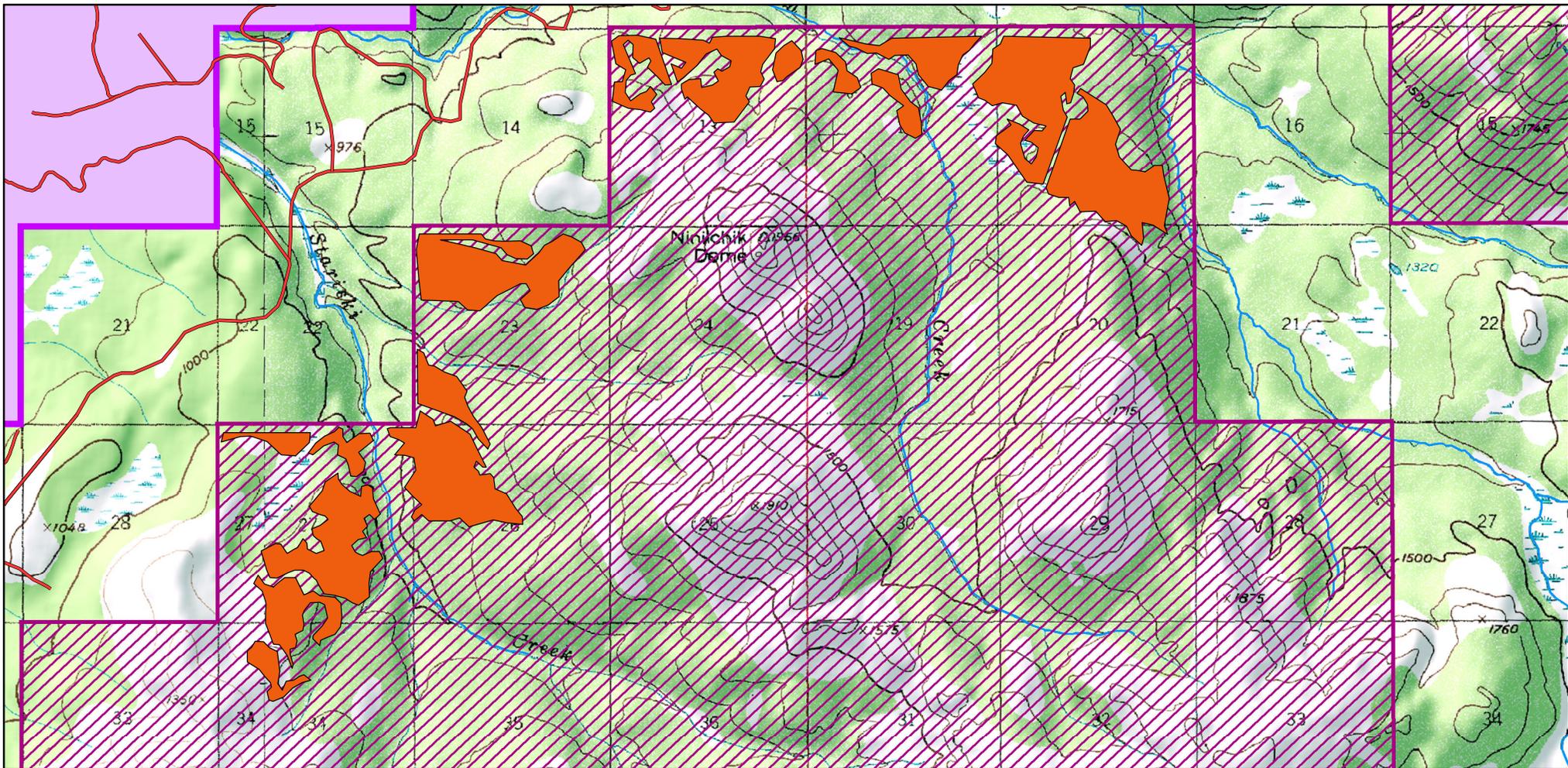


**Harvest Block: Dome View
Area Plan: Kenai Area Plan
Township 2 & 3 South, Range 13 West,
Seward Meridian**



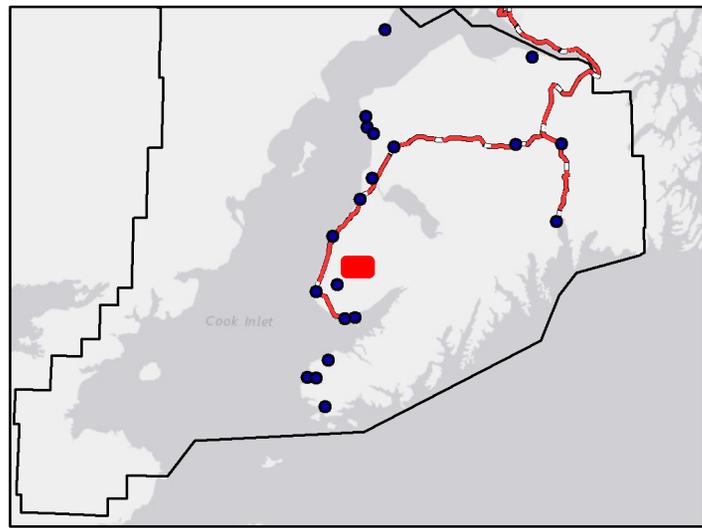
Alaska Division of Forestry
Mat-Su/Southwest Area
Palmer, AK

T. Much March 2018

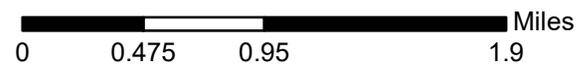


Legend

-  Harvest Units
-  Kenai Roads
-  State Roads
-  Agreement Settlement
-  Special Use Land
-  Legislative Designated Area



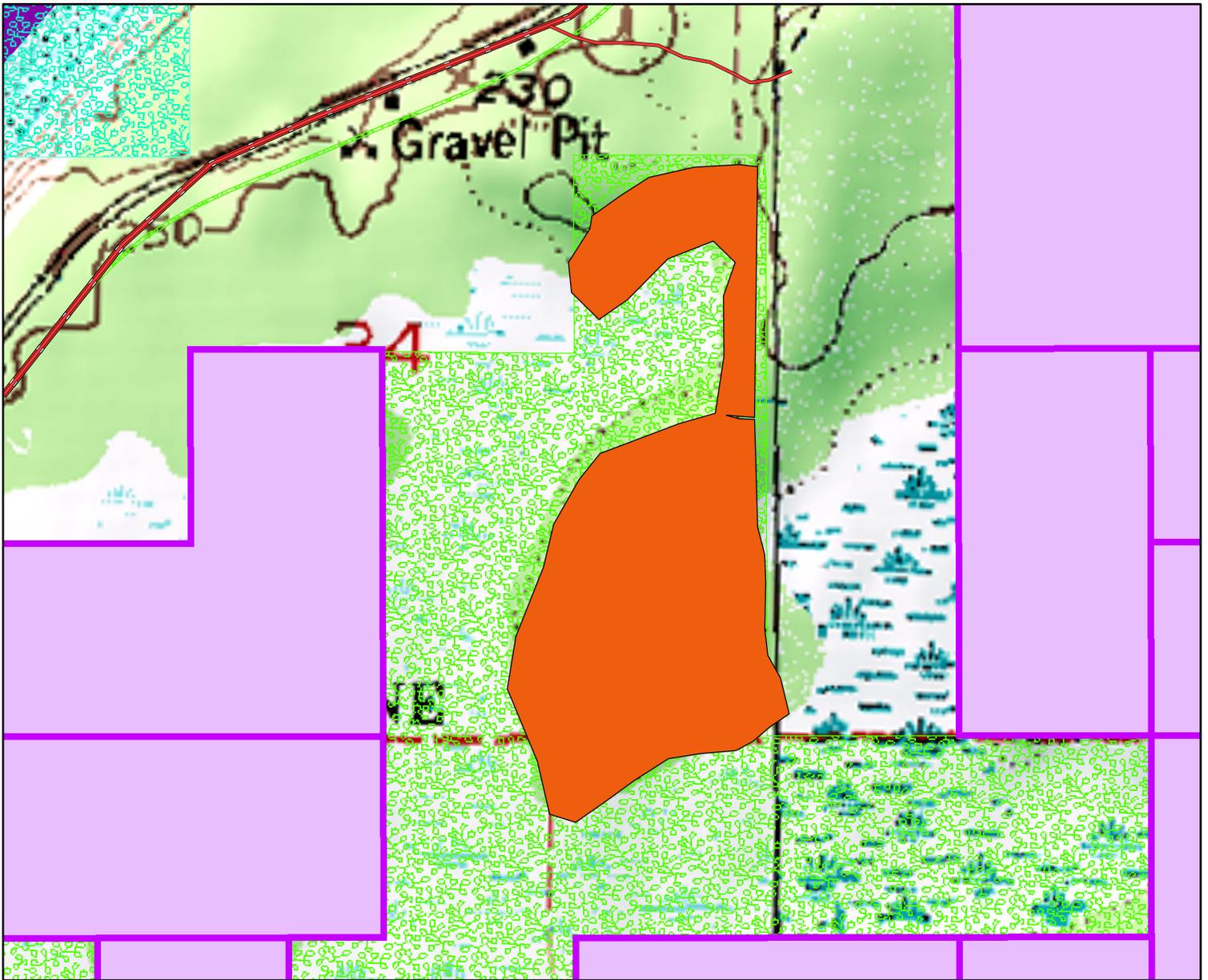
**Harvest Block: South Ninilchik
Area Plan: Kenai Area Plan
Township 3 South, Ranges 12 and 13 West,
West Seward Meridian**



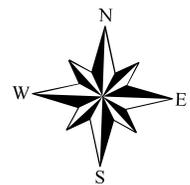
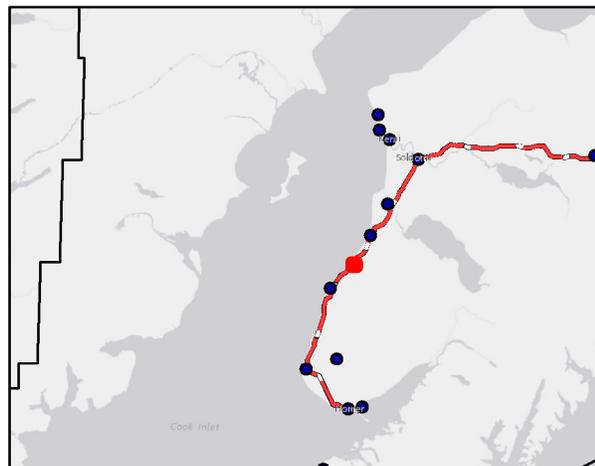
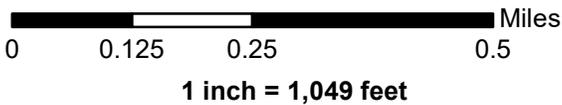
1 inch = 3,960 feet



Alaska Division of Forestry
Mat-Su/Southwest Area
Palmer, AK
T. Much March 2018



**Harvest Block: Mile 127
Area Plan: Kenai Area Plan
Township 1 North & 1 South
Ranges 13 West,
West Seward Meridian**



Alaska Division of Forestry
Mat-Su/Southwest Area
Palmer, AK

T. Much March 2018

Appendix B

Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry August, 2018

The following comments were received during the public comment period on the Preliminary Five-Year Schedule of Timber Sales Calendar Year 2018-2022.

Organization	Author	Location
ADFG-Habitat	Erik Johnson	Palmer
Public	Becky Long	Talkeetna
ADFG-Habitat	Sarah Wilber	Palmer

Commenter	Comment	Response
	Purpose/Land Base/ Management Intent	
	No comments for purpose/land base/management intent.	
B. Long	There is no mention of the extensive mortality of white spruce by the spruce bark beetle infestation in the Mat-Su. Very strange that this is not mentioned like it is mentioned for the Kenai/Kodiak area. There is extensive beetle kill spruce in the area that is being offered up for the five year schedule in the Petersville and Rabideux area. An 8/31/2017 Anchorage Daily News article “Spruce beetle devastation returns to southcentral Alaska and moves further north” has a map showing the 2017 aerial surveys. These areas are in that map. There have also been more recent articles showing this. The beetle infestation is extensive in the Susitna areas.	Mat-Su Harvest Methodology has been revised to reflect the mortality of mature white spruce due to the spruce bark beetle. Note: Stands on the Kenai tend to have a higher ratio of spruce in the species mix than the Mat-Su.
	Timber Harvest Methodology	
B. Long	Why is the extensive bark beetle damage to spruce trees not mentioned for the Mat-Su Area however this is mentioned in the Kenai/Kodiak area?	See previous response
B. Long	How are commercial harvesters dealing with the dead and dying spruce trees? Are commercial logging activities contributing more infestation with their harvest methods.	Commercial harvesters utilize beetle killed spruce in many ways. State timber sales do not restrict harvest of beetle killed trees in the harvest area. Cut green trees may act as beetle attractors, however if removed prior to the years beetle flight will not cause harm. Preventative measures are outlined in the <i>Forest Resources & Practices Regulations</i> , 11 AAC 95.195 Clearing of spruce trees.
	Water Quality/ Fisheries	
ADFG-Wilber	Willer-Kash Block: This area has a well-established road system and there will likely be little need for the development of crossings on anadromous streams.	Individual stream crossings are expected to be identified in the FLUP. No change required to this FYSTS.
ADFG-Wilber	Houston Timber Block: This area may contain waterbodies that have not been surveyed for anadromous fish yet. In addition, I confirmed with sport fish access that the use of W. Zero Lake Road should not be a problem.	Individual stream crossings are expected to be identified in the FLUP. No change required to this FYSTS.
ADFG-Wilber	Rabideux Timber Block: Interest to know where a bridge was located previously as I cannot find any permit records for a bridge in this area, such bridge would require a fish habitat permit. Is there a crossing point on Rabideux Creek trail? There is currently a rusted out derelict culvert sitting in the stream at the previous crossing site and would like this removed.	This is a winter only sale as no new bridge will be installed. Rabideux Creek represents a substantial bridge crossing not supported by the timber sale lending this sale to winter operations and ice bridging. Permits for ice bridging will be identified during the FLUP process.
ADFG-Wilber	West Petersville Timber Block: Road work in this area that involved culvert work on fish bearing waterbodies would require a fish habitat permit.	The DOF will work as usual with the ADFG during the FLUP process to identify and permit required crossings.
	Wildlife	

Commenter	Comment	Response
	No comments were made on Wildlife issues.	
	Cultural Resources	
	No comments for Cultural Resources	
	General	
ADNR- Agriculture	Map of Willer-Kash Timber block is labeled wrong.	Noted, the maps have been updated and corrected.